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EXCISE 263

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ACTION NEA-07
INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-05 SS-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01
IO-06 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 HA-02 L-01 IOE-01
TRSE-00 PM-23 PA-01 OME-01 SSM-01 INRE-00 SAL-01
CES-02 ACDA-10 SSN-01 ICAE-00 SP-02 DOEE-00 SPRS-01
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O 221557Z JUN 81 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7853
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USLO RIYADH
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY J.L. DATE 9/20/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS☒
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☐
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 TEL AVIV 09855
LIMDIS
E.O. 12065: RDS-1 6/22/01 (BROWN, WILLIAM A.) OR-M
TAGS: PEPR, UNSC, IS, US, XF
SUBJECT: ISRAELI REACTION TO UNSC VOTE ON IAF RAID AGAINST IRAQI REACTOR

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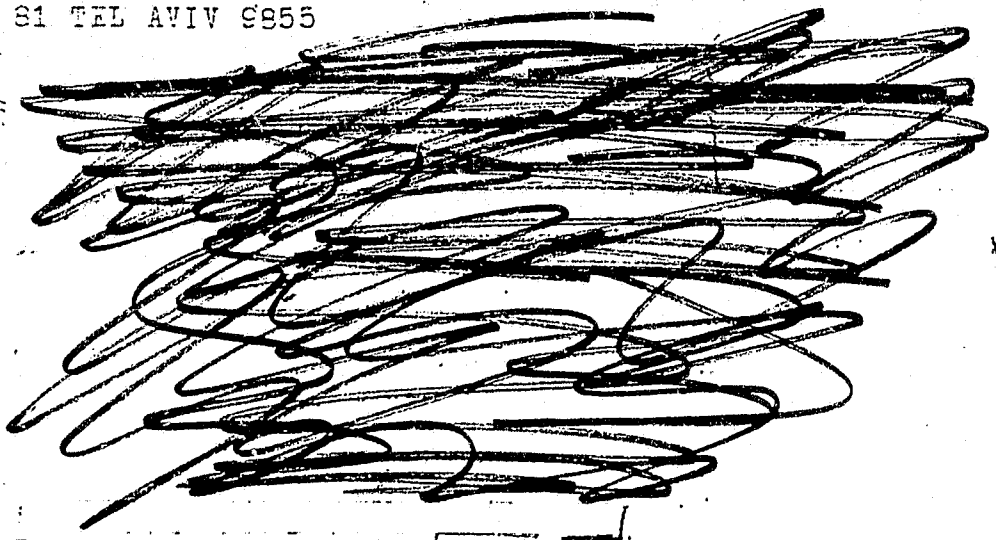
REF: A. TEL AVIV 9794, B. TEL AVIV 9788
1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. SUMMARY.



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5. ISRAELI MEDIA HAVE [redacted] SHOWN CONSIDERABLE
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UNDERSTANDING FOR THE U.S. POSITION, WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS. REPORTING ON THE UNSC CONDEMNATION, THE ISRAEL TELEVISION COMMENTATOR NOTED THAT "OUT OF CONSIDERATIONS OF ITS OWN THE U.S. WAS FORCED TO VOTE FOR THE PROPOSAL OF A MODERATE CONDEMNATION. RATHER THAN ABSTAIN FROM THE VOTE." HOWEVER, "MOST TRIBUTE FOR THE RESOLUTION'S FORMULATION" IS ACCORDED TO "AN EXTRAORDINARY U.S. EFFORT ... TO MODERATE THE FORMULAS OF EXTREMIST PROPOSALS." THE COMMENTATOR WENT ON TO POINT OUT THAT THE U.S. TOOK PAINS TO REASSERT ITS SUPPORT OF ISRAEL FOLLOWING THE VOTE AND THAT "THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TOWARD ISRAEL, DESPITE ITS SUPPORT FOR THE ... RESOLUTION."

6. POLITICAL CORRESPONDENTS REPORT THAT BEGIN WANTED THE CABINET TO COME OUT WITH A STRONGER REACTION TO THE U.S. VOTE, BUT THE LATTER DECIDED TO "TONE DOWN" THAT PART OF THE COMMUNIQUE. A STORY IN HA'ARETZ NOTES THAT "THE GENERAL ASSESSMENT (OF THE CABINET) WAS THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION SHOULD BE VIEWED IN TERMS OF ITS PRACTICAL CONSEQUENCES AND IN THIS REGARD THE U.S. HELPED ISRAEL BY PREVENTING THE INCLUSION IN THE RESOLUTION OF ANY CLAUSE OF PRACTICAL PURPORT. BUT FOR THIS AMERICAN STAND, THE POSITION ADOPTED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL COULD HAVE BEEN FAR GRAVER FROM ISRAEL'S STANDPOINT." ACCORDINGLY, "JERUSALEM VIEWS THE VOTE AS A 'LESSER EVIL.'" BECAUSE IT IS "TOOTHLESS." PM BEGIN'S CONFIDANT BARAK WRITES IN MAARIV THAT "IN THE COURSE OF CONTACTS BETWEEN UPPER ECHELONS OF THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION AND THE ISRAELI EMBASSY (IN WASHINGTON), IT WAS

PLAINLY INTIMATED THAT AS SOON AS THE STIR CAUSED
BY ISRAEL'S ACTION IN IRAQ QUIETS DOWN, ISRAEL
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USLO RIYADH
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 TEL AVIV 09855
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CAN EXPECT RENEWED UNDERSTANDING ON THE PART
OF THE U.S.A., INCLUDING A PRACTICAL SOLUTION
TO THE MATTER OF THE FOUR WARPLANES...
7. ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LEDGER, PRESS REPORTS
THAT FONMIN SHAMIR "TOOK A GRAVE VIEW OF THE FACT
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THAT THE U.S. SUPPORTED THE DEMAND TO COMPENSATE
IRAQ AND TO PUT ISRAEL'S NUCLEAR REACTOR UNDER
INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISION." FURTHERMORE, BEGIN IS
SAID TO CONSIDER U.S. CONDUCT AT THE SECURITY
COUNCIL "AS A GRAVE PRECEDENT IN THE RELATIONS
BETWEEN ISRAEL AND AMERICA." BEGIN'S DEFIANT
WARNING THAT ISRAEL WILL "USE ALL THE MEANS AT ITS
DISPOSAL TO DEFEND ITS CITIZENS AND TO PREVENT ITS
ENEMIES FROM MANUFACTURING WEAPONS OF MASS
DESTRUCTION," DUBBED BY THE PRESS AS THE "BEGIN
DOCTRINE," IS INTERPRETED AS "A SIGNAL TO THE U.S.
THAT THERE ARE THINGS ISRAEL CANNOT AFFORD TO GIVE
UP WHEN THE SURVIVAL AND DEFENSE OF THE STATE AND

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ITS CITIZENS ARE AT STAKE."
8. PRESS IS EQUALLY APPREHENSIVE THAT THE U.S. VOTE MAY MARK, AS A JERUSALEM POST EDITORIAL PUTS IT, A "U.S. TILT TOWARD BAGHDAD," BASED ON THE FEELING THAT "A RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND IRAQ WILL INEVITABLY COME AT THE EXPENSE OF TIES BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND JERUSALEM." THUS, HA'ARETZ EDITORIALIZES THAT "ISRAEL MUST NOT BE MISLED. MRS. KIRKPATRICK'S EFFORTS WERE MOSTLY AIMED AT ... SAVING WASHINGTON-BAGHDAD'S RELATIONS" AND HENCE, ISRAELI PROTEST "SHOULD INEVITABLY BE DIRECTED AT THE U.S., TOO." THE PAPER ADVISES JERUSALEM TO CONSECRATE ITS EFFORT TO IRON OUT MATTERS WITH THE U.S. AND CULTIVATE ITS TIES WITH ITS FRIENDS THERE RATHER THAN TAKING POLEMICAL SHOTS AGAINST ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS WHO OPPOSED THE RAID. SIMILARLY, DAVAR STATES THAT "IRAQ HAS REPLACED SYRIA AS THE OBJECT OF U.S. WOOING EFFORTS." THE JERUSALEM
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POST DRAWS THE LESSON THAT "THE MORAL IS NOT THAT THE U.S. HAS SOMEHOW CEASED TO BE FRIENDLY, BUT THAT THERE ARE LIMITS TO WHAT HAS BEEN TERMED, SOMEWHAT LOOSELY, THE ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ISRAEL." LEWIS
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